



Middlebury

Special Collections & Archives

C-45 Levi Parsons letters, journals, and other material

Rev. D.O. Morton, Shoreham, Vermont

My Dear Brother Morton,

A few days since I received a large parcel of letters from America, among wh [which] were yours of June 22 & Oct. 26. 1822. Those intended for our lamented brother from his Father, his Mother & his brother Ira, & are from his father ^(& yourself)^ to me dated June 17. I was never perhaps in greater haste than I am now. You must therefore excuse this imperfect scroll. Under date of June 22, Mrs. Morton makes several inquiries concerning of our departed brother. To most of them I believe you have received answers before this time from his papers or from my letters & journals. While he was in Syria I have reason to think he suffered very much, but as he was delirious much of the time I have not been able to ascertain very precisely how he was treated. After his arrival at Smyrna until his death he had everything which could be provided in this country. He was very contented & happy in mind & he suffered hardly any at all in body. Days & nights passed in our union as tranquil as a summer's evening. It would have comforted you to see how easy, cheerful & happy he was. He seemed quietly moving down to the dark valley & his savior was very kind.

Your request from Pittsfield about such things as Dr. Parsons left I fulfilled soon after his death. I hope you have received everything before now. I fear I shall not be able to send you anything in addition to what I have forwarded already, we will assist you in compiling the Memoirs. In Jerusalem &c [etc.] he kept his journal & diary all together. He forwarded a copy of his journal to Mr. Evarts. After his death I copied all that I thought would be interesting, wh [which] he had not copied, & sent it to Mr. Evarts. If he has not published the whole I presume you can get it. Nothing now remains in the original journal, I believe, that would assist you, & I hope you will therefore allow me to keep it in his own dear handwriting. I sent Mr. E. a paper from wh there is an extract Mis. Mer. [Missionary papers?] Oct. p. 320. In that paper is an account of his conversation during the sickness. If it has not been published I presume you can get it. You are aware that our brother had a very extensive correspondence & I presume you have taken measures to collect his letters from his correspondents. Next to his journals I think his letters will furnish the richest materials for the Memoirs. I shall wait with anxiety to see the work & hope it will not be long delayed.

The relation which subsisted between Mr. Parsons & myself made me feel as if his relatives were my relatives. His death has by no means diminished by attachment to his friends. The request from yourself & Mrs. M. & your Parents is therefore particularly gratifying to my feelings. I shall always be glad to receive your letters. I will write as often as my numerous & pressing engagements will permit. We will pray for each other & wait in hope of a glorious meeting with our departed brother never to be separated again. I rejoice to hear how the Lord blesses your labors.

May you have multitudes of souls for your crown of rejoicing.

My love to sister. Kiss your dear children for me & when you write to our parents remember me most affectionately.

I shall always be glad if sister writes one half the letter,

Dear Lord bless you all.

Yours sincerely

Pliny Fisk